

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.114
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1650**

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : David E. Townsend
Application No. : 09/940,682
Filed : August 27, 2001
Confirmation No. : 4343
For : COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR DETECTING
TARGET MICROORGANISMS IN A SAMPLE

Examiner : Allison M. Ford
Art Unit : 1651
Docket No. : 150026.464
Date : June 4, 2008

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Office Action dated February 20, 2008, please extend the period of time for response one month, to expire on June 20, 2008. Enclosed is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and a Petition for an Extension of Time and authorization to charge the requisite fees. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.